

SITE SCREENING ASSESSMENT

Prepared by: California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
Cooperative Agreement Number: 00T14601-1
DTSC Fiscal Year: 2013-2014

Prepared for: United States Environmental Protection Agency Region 9
Superfund Division, Site Assessment Section
San Francisco, California

Date: 04/23/2014

Site Name:	Pacific Alternators				
City:	Bell		County:	Los Angeles	
DTSC Regional Office:	Cypress				
CERCLIS ID:	CAN000900126	EPA ID: CAD982314106		Envirostor ID:	60001975

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Narrative summary of site history and recommended action:

Pacific Alternators (site) is located at 5247 Florence Avenue, Bell, California, 90201. The former automobile alternator repair business no longer exists. It is now a vacant lot with no buildings and a chain link fence surrounding it.

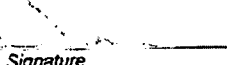

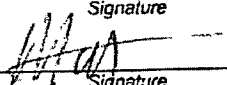
Based on information from LA County Fire Department and the Hazardous Waste Tracking System (HWTS) database, the site was owned by Jose Jorge Parra and was an automobile alternator repair shop for 24 years. Pacific Alternators closed in April 2005 and the property was purchased by the City of Bell for a proposed park.

Tetrachloroethene (PCE) was used at the site (470 pounds manifested in 2000) and there is a PCE and trichloroethene (TCE) impacted production well on the adjacent property that has exceeded maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) in the past.

It is unknown if any site remediation took place after closure of the facility. Further environmental investigation by EPA is recommended to determine if this site is a source of PCE and TCE contamination.

DTSC Recommendation:					
Refer to:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EPA	<input type="checkbox"/> CADTSC	<input type="checkbox"/> CARWQCB	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> No Further Action
EPA Decision:					
Refer to:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EPA	<input type="checkbox"/> CADTSC	<input type="checkbox"/> CARWQCB	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Agency	<input type="checkbox"/> No Further Action

Final Signatures and Concurrence

DTSC Screener:	 <small>Signature</small>	Hossein Nassiri <small>Type Name</small>	04/23/2014 <small>Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)</small>
DTSC Approval:	 <small>Signature</small>	Alice Gimeno-O'Brien <small>Type Name</small>	04/23/2014 <small>Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)</small>
EPA Concurrence:	 <small>Signature</small>	Matt Mitguard <small>Type Name</small>	6/11/14 <small>Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)</small>
EPA Comments:			

EPA ONLY			
CERCLIS CODING:	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Valid Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Not valid Site - State Lead	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Assessment Needed
			<input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Pacific Alternators

CAW000900126

Section 1: Site Information

1.1 CERCLIS Site Name: Pacific Alternators (misspelled in some records as Pacific Altenators)
Aliases:

1.2 Origin of Site: Northeast 710 Corridor Site Discovery
Note discovery project, referral, complaint, etc.

1.3 Site Location Information

Street Address: 5247 Florence Avenue
State: CA **Zip Code:** 90201
Latitude: 33.968722
Longitude: -118.172921

1.4 Regulatory Information

CERCLIS ID:
RCRA ID: CAD982314106
Envirostor ID: 60001975
Geotracker ID:

Section 2: Operational History

Reference all factual information and attach complete and legible copies of all cited references.

2.1 Current Operation

- ☐ Operational facility
☒ Nonoperational
☐ Current Operators do not use CERCLA hazardous constituents

Current owner: N/A

Current operator: N/A

Hazardous materials used: N/A

Hazardous materials manifested or disposed (HWTS): N/A

Dates of operation:

Reference(s):

2.2 Historical owners/operators that may have used Contaminants of Concern onsite:

Owner: Jose Jorge Parra

Operator: same

Hazardous materials used: Trisodium Phosphate, Sodium Carbonate, Sodium Metasilicate

Hazardous materials suspected:

Dates of operation: 1980 to 2005 (see Attachments B after photos [County yearly fee invoice], and C1-Comptax letter to LA County indicating close of business),

Based on the HWTS information, reported site related constituents of concern include metals (specifically cadmium), low pH liquids and VOCs (specifically PCE).

Reference(s): Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement (see Attachment C3), HWTS data and LA County Fire Department Field Notes (see Attachments C4 and C5)

Hazardous materials suspected:
Dates of operation:
Reference(s):

Reference all factual information and attach complete and legible copies of all cited references.

Check all that apply

- ☒ Industrial area
☒ Residential area
☐ Schools/day care centers within 200 feet
☒ Surface water within 2 miles of the site (LA River)
☒ Sensitive environments or wetlands within 2 miles of site (LA River)
☐ Potential source of contamination to surface water

Details, description and references:
See Attachment B, Site Reconnaissance Figure

☐ Surface water used for drinking water within 15 miles of the site
☐ Public / commercial supply
☐ Private supply.
 Approximate number of people served by the surface water:
 Details/additional information:

- ☐ Health advisory for consuming fish
- ☐ Surface water within 15 miles of the site is used for recreational or commercial fishing
- ☐ Surface water within 15 miles of the site provides habitat for sensitive species
- ☐ Site is a suspected source of surface water contamination

The Los Angeles River is located within ½ mile east of the site and it is not utilized for drinking water supplies. The Los Angeles River is highly modified, having been lined with concrete along most of its length by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from the 1930s to the 1960s. Legal recreational fishing in the LA River is limited to upstream areas outside of the 15 miles: <http://www.thelariver.com/guide/fishing/>
<http://lacreekfreak.wordpress.com/2008/10/28/fish-in-the-los-angeles-river/>
(See also Attachment C6 – Water Quality Control Plan, Los Angeles Region).

3.3 Groundwater

☒ Groundwater used for drinking water within 4 miles of site

☒ Public / commercial supply (approximate number of people served: The City of Bell has a population of approximately 35,820 and is serviced by a number of private water companies <http://www.cityofbell.org/?navid=271>. (See Water Service Map, Attachment C1).

☐ Private supply (approximate number of people served:)

☒ Groundwater within 4 miles of the site known to be contaminated with hazardous substances: Based on Geographic Information System (GIS) SPGIT information the following information was found:

There are 171 drinking water wells within 4 miles of the site. Distance to the nearest drinking water well is 50 feet (north) which have PCE and TCE impacts. 125 total wells are located south, within 4 miles the site. The specific groundwater gradient is difficult to discern without site specific data. Of the total wells within the southern half of the 4 mile radius circle, one was abandoned and 40 destroyed, leaving 84 active wells. GIS well contaminant data only includes 10 wells south of the site that all had TCE and/or PCE, but only 4 with concentrations above MCLs. Five of the destroyed wells are within one mile to the south. Data does not specifically indicate why a well was shut down.

List substances that exceed drinking water standards: Key contaminants in the nearest impacted drinking water well are PCE and TCE

☒ Site is a suspected source of groundwater contamination

SPGIT Priority Area - Yes

Quartile(s): SPGIT Priority ranking – 80 (See attachment C1)

Details: Based on DTSC database Geology GIS Package 1 - The site lies within GIS SPGIT area 80. Additionally, areas 30, 281, 179, 52, 23, and 336 are located to the north, northwest, south, southeast, east and northeast of the site, respectively. Based on the HWTS information, reported site related constituents of concern include metals (specifically cadmium), low pH liquids and VOCs (specifically PCE). No sensitive species are anticipated to inhabit the site vicinity. As observed during site visits, the site currently vacant with no apparent ongoing activity.

3.4 Community Interest

☐ High level of community interest

☐ Some community interest

☒ Low/no community interest

Details, description and references: File review at the State Water Resources Control Board, LA region, at 320 W 4th street, suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

Section 4: Site Reconnaissance

4.1 Method of Site Reconnaissance (See Attachment B):

☒ Onsite Visit Date: March 4, 2014

The Site Screening Assessment (SSA) is used for preliminary data gathering and planning purposes. All findings and recommendations are subject to change if new information necessitating further consideration is discovered.

- ☐ Drive-by/offsite visit (Date:)
☐ Records/aerial photo review

4.2 Adjacent properties:

North - Richard Fields, empty lot and residential
South - Mobile homes
East - Residential and LA River
West - Residential and Valero gas station

4.3 Structures onsite (e.g. office building, paint booth, repair shop, etc.): Vacant lot
(See Attachment B photos)

4.4 Site surface description (e.g., visual staining, cracked pavement, etc.): Vacant lot
with no visual staining and some cracked pavement.

4.5 Hazardous materials observed onsite

☒ N/A (records review only; see Section 2 for hazardous materials
manifested/disposed)

4.6 Waste Storage and potential hazardous materials

It is a vacant lot with no drums or hazardous materials/waste at the site.

- a) **Drums:**
- b) **Aboveground Storage Tanks:**
- c) **Underground Storage Tanks:** None (see Attachment C7)
- d) **Clarifiers:**
- e) **Transformers potentially containing PCBs**
- f) **Other:**

Section 5: Summary and Recommendations/Conclusions

Use multiple pages if needed. Include parenthetical references for all statements, and attach complete copies of references used.

5.1 Summary of Site History, Historical Releases, and Potential Releases

Pacific Alternators is located at 5247 Florence Avenue, Bell, CA 90201. The former automobile alternator repair business no longer exists. It is now a vacant lot with no buildings and a chain link fence surrounding it.

Based on information from LA County Fire Department and the Hazardous Waste Tracking System (HWTS) database, this site was owned by Jose Jorge Parra and was an "automobile alternator repair shop" for 24 years (See Attachment B [after photos] for LA County Haz Mat Fee Invoices for 1990-91). Pacific Alternators closed in April 2005 and the property was purchased by the City of Bell for a proposed park (Attachment C1).

LA County Fire Department Inspected the site on the following years: 1/1999, 8/2002, and 10/2002. On 8/28/2002 they recorded minor hazardous waste violations including

hazardous waste labeling and accumulation time, hazardous materials storage and labeling, and manifest retention time (See Attachment C2). The following are Hazardous Material Inventory Statement dated 12/5/2005: Trisodium Phosphate, Sodium Carbonate, Sodium Metasilicate. Hazard categories are: reactive, acute health chronic and radioactive (See Attachment C3).

Hazardous Waste manifests from 1/2002 and 5/2002 show the following hazardous waste information: oil parts washer solutions, petroleum naphtha, regulated aqueous parts washer solution (see Attachment C4, and Field Notes from LA County Fire Department Attachment C5). Based on the HWTS information, reported site related constituents of concern include metals (specifically cadmium), low pH liquids and VOCs, specifically PCE. PCE totaling 470 pounds was manifested in 2000 (See Attachment C4).

Based on GIS data information, there is a PCE and TCE impacted production well on the adjacent property approximately 50 feet from the site. At the closure of the business in 2005, PCE and TCE exceeded MCLs, however impacts have reduced to below MCLs for TCE and PCE, to date. It is unknown if any site remediation took place after closure of the facility. A Google Earth image from November 14, 2009 showed some site work potentially depicting remediation work onsite but the nature of the work is currently unknown (See Attachment B photos).

5.2 Regulatory Involvement

LA County Fire Department-CUPA

5.3 Recommendation/conclusion

No spills or underground tanks were noted by the inspection reports from LA County CUPA/LA County Fire Department. Minor violations were noted in 2002.

Currently the site is a vacant lot when visited on 3/13/2014, with no visible discoloration on its asphalt or visible solid or liquid materials or wastes at the site. Even though the site lies within a high priority SPGIT area (80), there is no indication from the file review and site visit that the site has had an accidental release to soil or groundwater during its operations. However, due to the previously impacted production well with PCE and TCE, and because the site utilized PCE based on HWTS data, further environmental investigation by EPA is recommended to determine if this site is a source of PCE and TCE contamination in groundwater.

ATTACHMENT A: Site Screening Contact Report

Provide detailed description of conversations. Attach complete copies of any documents provided by the contact. Use as many pages as necessary to report all contacts.

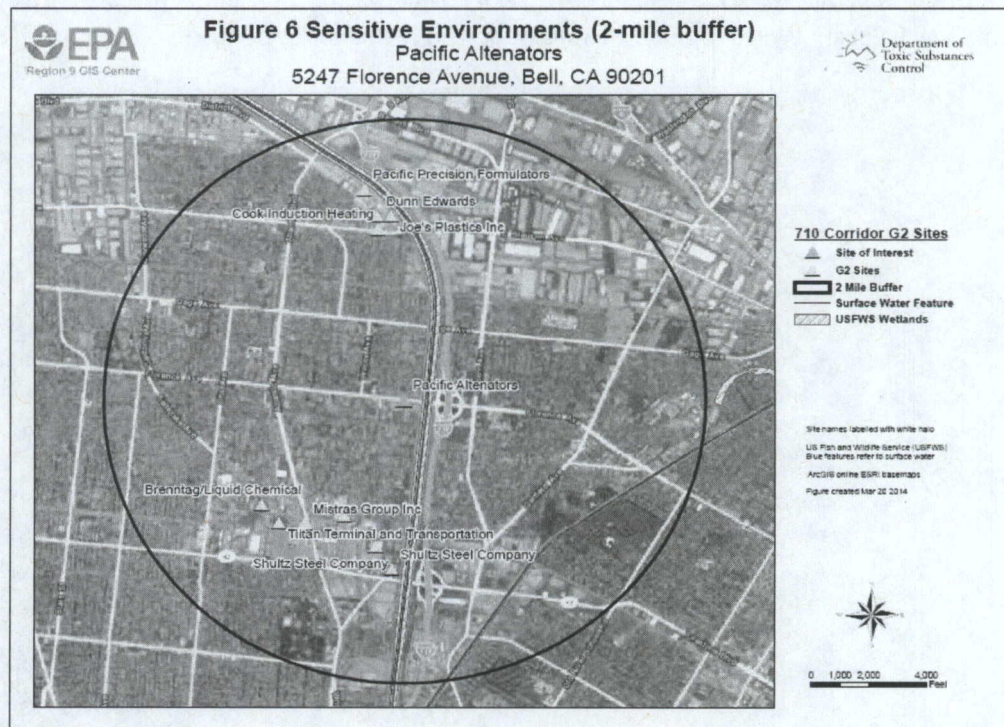
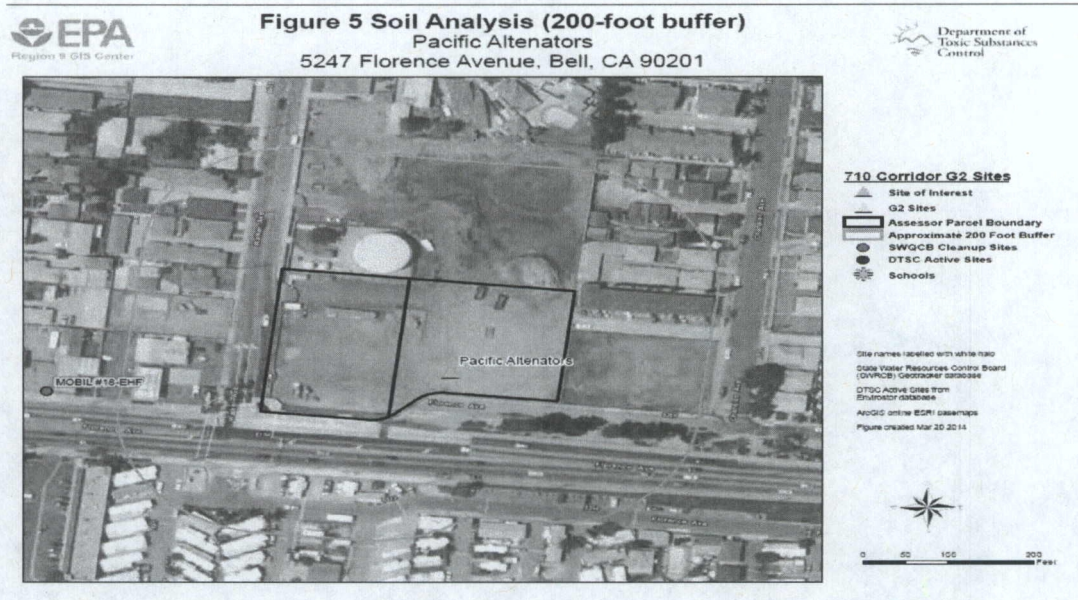
Contact Name:	
Affiliation:	
Telephone Number:	
Date(s) of contact:	
Discussion:	
<p>There is no correct address found for the past owner/operator of the site. The Information Request Letter for the Site Screening Assessment to Mr. Jose Jorge Parra was returned. Based on a letter from Comptax Inc. dated 2/11/2009, the Pacific Alternators was out of business on April 10, 2005 and the City of Bell bought the business property in order to make a park (see attachment C1).</p>	

Contact Name:	Flores, Lucinda
Affiliation:	Water Board
Telephone Number:	(213) 576-6633
Date(s) of contact:	February 24, 2014
Discussion:	
<p>I requested to search of files relates to Pacific Alternators and appointment to review them (see Attachment C8).</p>	

Contact Name:	Yvette Caldero
Affiliation:	Public Health Investigation Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Telephone Number:	(323)890-7806
Date(s) of contact:	March 19, 2014
Discussion:	
<p>I requested to search files relates to Pacific Alternators and appointment to review them (see Attachment C8).</p>	

ATTACHMENT B: Site Reconnaissance Report

Include photos and a site layout map showing features described in Sections 4.2-4.5.



Current Site Status
Pacific Alternators
5247 Florence Avenue, Bell, CA 90201



View to the northwest across the southern portion of the former Pacific Alternators property. The adjacent drinking water well (Watson Well 01) infrastructure is located in the background.



View to the northeast across vacant (but paved) portion of property.

Current Site Status
Pacific Alternators
5247 Florence Avenue, Bell, CA 90201



View to the east of the adjacent drinking water well property.



Google Earth image from November 14, 2009 potentially depicting remediation work onsite.

Looking Toward North



Looking Toward East



Looking Toward West



[illegible]

ATTACHMENT C: ATTACHMENT INDEX

Attachment #	Document Title	Date
1	Property sold to the City of Bell - Comptasx letter to LA County City of Bell Water Service Map SPGIT Map of Bell and surrounding area	02/11/2009 2014
2	Facility Information Report including Violation list	12/05/2005
3	Hazardous Materials Inventory Statement	10/2/2002
4	Hazardous Waste Manifests and HWTS generated reports	2002, 1999 & 2000
5	Field Notes from LA County Fire Department	12/06/2002
6	Water Quality Control Plan LA Region	2/23/1995
7	HW Control Program Form – Field Note (No Underground Storage Tank at the Site).	2/1/2001
8	Agency file requests: Emails from Water Board and LA County	3/12/2014

ATTACHMENT D: SITE TYPE – PRIMARY/SECONDARY ACTIVITY FORM

Fed Fac Indicator: ☐ Federal Facility ☐ Not A Federal Facility ☐ Status Undetermined

RCRA Status: ☒ Generator ☐ TSDF ☐ Transporter ☐ Not listed in RCRIS

SITE TYPES (Designate one dominant primary category (PC). Designate all secondary subcategories (SS) that apply.) Site type designations for both primary & secondary should pertain to the operation(s) on site of environmental consequence.

P	S	Manufacturing/Processing/Maintenance
C	S	(Subcategory)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chemicals and allied products
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coal gasification
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coke production
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Electric power generation and distribution
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Electronic/electrical equipment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fabrics/textiles
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lumber and wood products/pulp and paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lumber and wood products/wood preserving/treatment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Metal fabrication/finishing/coating and allied industries
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oil and gas
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ordnance production
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plastics and rubber products
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Primary metals/minerals processing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Radioactive products
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tanneries
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trucks/ships/trains/aircraft and related components
P	S	Waste Management
C	S	(Subcategory)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Radioactive waste treatment, storage, disposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Municipal solid waste landfill
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mine tailings disposal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial waste landfill
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial waste facility (non generator)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Illegal disposal/open dump
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Co-disposal landfill (municipal and industrial)

P	S	Other
C	S	(Subcategory)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agricultural
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Contaminated sediment site with no identifiable source
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dust control
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ground water plume site with no identifiable source
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military/other ordinance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Product storage/distribution
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Research, development, and testing facility
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Retail/commercial
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spill or other one time event
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation (e.g. railroad yards, airports, barge docking site)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Treatment works/septic tanks/other sewage treatment

P	S	Mining
C	S	(Subcategory)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Metals
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-metals minerals
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oil and gas

P	S	Recycling
C	S	(Subcategory)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Automobiles/tires
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Batteries/scrap metals/secondary smelting/precious metal recovery
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chemicals/chemicals waste (e.g. solvent recovery)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Drums/tanks
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Waste/used oil

SITE TYPES (Designate one dominant primary category (PC). Designate all secondary subcategories (SS) that apply.)

ATTACHMENT E: SITE SCREENING ASSESSMENT SAMPLING EVENT SUMMARY TABLE

Date	Event	Lead Agency	Main Contaminants Detected (include only CERCLA-eligible hazardous substances)	Notes/Description	Reference
N/A					

The Site Screening Assessment (SSA) is used for preliminary data gathering and planning purposes. All findings and recommendations are subject to change if new information necessitating further consideration is discovered.

Acronym List
(Modify as needed)

µg/L	micrograms per liter
bgs	below ground surface
AST	Aboveground Storage Tank
CADTSC	California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control
CARWQCB	California Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Water Quality Control Board
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980
CERCLIS	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System
CUPA	Certified Unified Program Agency
EPA	U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
LUST	Leaking Underground Storage Tank
NPL	National Priorities List
PA	Preliminary Assessment
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RCRA Info	Resource Conservation and Recovery Information System
SI	Site Investigation
UST	Underground Storage Tank
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound